This small dictionary of LIS terminology is the result of a Russian-American collaboration that since 1995 has involved LIS educators and practicing librarians in both countries. Compiled by John V. Richardson of GSLIS at UCLA and edited by Eduard R. Sukiasian of the Russian State Library, Victor V. Zverevich, and four other Russian librarians named in Richardson’s preface, it includes terms primarily from the «Anglo-russkii bibliotechno-bibliograficheskii slovar’» (1958), «Anglo-russkii slovar’ knigovedcheskih terminov» (1962), and “Bibliothekarisches Handwörterbuch = Librarian’s Dictionary = Nastol’nyi slovar’ bibliotekaria” (1995), which unfortunately was only used from the letter “R” forward. The emphasis is terms used by American librarians and on providing natural translations, explanations, or both for the Russian speaker.

While one could always criticize a subject-specific dictionary for including this or that term or neglecting another, the coverage is overall respectable for such an undertaking. A genuine effort was made to include everyday terms not found in older print sources, such as university librarian, peer review, control field, intellectual freedom, and branch library. Technology-specific terms are naturally dated: xmodem is included, but XML, OAI-PMH, CMS, information retrieval, and institutional repository are missing. While native Russian translations are preferred, Russian borrowings of English terms (such as brauzer or onlainovyi) are also given when appropriate.
Sukiasian’s preface gives a detailed history of LIS dictionaries published in Russia and the problems of translating a number of terms, and the bibliography, though in need of editing, is quite extensive, including the highly useful online resources Multitran (<http://www.multitran.ru/>) and ODLIS (<http://lu.com/odlis/>). The entries and prefaces suffer only from typographical problems that clearly arose from an overaggressive AutoCorrect feature in Microsoft Word and character set conversion problems, both of which our field is all too familiar with.

While the prefatory remarks, list of abbreviations used, and bibliography are in Russian in the print edition, English translations of these sections (and some in Russian) appear on Richardson’s website for the book (<http://purl.org/net/LIS_Terms>). This site now contains an unedited list of “A” through “C” of the dictionary, and Richardson hopes to publish the entire dictionary, with sound recordings of English and Russian pronunciations of each term, online and on CD-ROM. However, in the world of fast-changing terminology and jargon, expanded Internet access might make an updatable online reference sources, such as the Dictionary of Library Terms (<http://pang.nlib.ee/termin/eng/>) in six languages and the Normativnaia baza GSNTI (<http://gsnti-norms.ru/norms/default.htm>), more workable.

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